



Oklahoma Crop Weather

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Spring Storms Move Across Oklahoma

Spring thunderstorms moved across Oklahoma last week bringing rainfall to many parts of the State. The West Central district received 2.41 inches of rain last week, the highest total for the State. However, some of the districts received little to no rainfall. The high winds and warmer temperatures dried out top soil in areas that received limited amounts of precipitation. Overall, topsoil moisture improved this week with 68 percent in the adequate to surplus range. Average temperatures were in the 60's last week. There were 5.1 days suitable for fieldwork.

Topsoil Moisture by Percent				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	7	25	61	7
Last Week	9	30	59	2
Last Year	16	26	58	0

Subsoil Moisture by Percent				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	22	35	42	1
Last Week	25	38	36	1
Last Year	43	44	13	0

Small Grains: Small grains had started to show signs of stress in some areas due to lack of moisture. Many producers sprayed wheat fields in an effort to control an increasing number of weeds. Wheat heads were beginning to emerge on a few early-planted wheat fields. Winter wheat jointing was 12 percentage points ahead of normal at 59 percent. Ninety-eight percent of oats had been planted, 9 points ahead of the five-year average. Rye was 64 percent jointed, an increase of 16 percentage points from the previous week.

Small Grain Conditions by Percent					
Week Ending March 25, 2007					
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat -					
This Week	3	7	23	47	20
Last Week	4	9	25	44	18
Last Year	31	34	29	6	0
Rye					
This Week	3	7	28	50	12
Oats					
This Week	1	4	42	50	3

Row Crops: Producers continued preparation activities for row crops by applying fertilizers and herbicides to fresh seedbeds. By week's end, producers had 23 percent of field corn planted, 13 points ahead of the five-year average. Seedbed preparations remained ahead of normal for corn, peanuts, sorghum, and soybeans. However, cotton seedbed preparations remained behind normal at 29 percent.

Watermelons: The warmer temperatures have allowed watermelon producers to plant earlier than normal. Four percent of watermelons were planted by week's end.

Pasture and Range: Cool season pastures in many areas were in need of rain to activate recently applied fertilizers. Pastures continued to green up but growth has been slow. Pasture conditions deteriorated in areas that received no rainfall this past week due to increasing temperatures and high winds. However, statewide pastures improved some from last week but were still rated in mostly fair to poor condition. Recent runoffs helped fill ponds that have been empty for months, but more precipitation is still greatly needed.

Livestock: Livestock conditions remained in the mostly good to fair range. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$108 per cwt. Prices for heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$98 per cwt. Livestock marketings were average last week. Producers are still very concerned about hay supplies but improved pasture conditions had reduced the need for hay.

Livestock Conditions by Percent					
Week Ending March 25, 2007					
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	1	4	52	41	2
Pasture & Range	15	29	42	13	1

Oklahoma Crop Progress									
Week Ending March 25, 2007									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Average.
<i>Wheat</i> -					<i>Sorghum</i> -				
Jointing	59	41	41	47	Seedbed Prepared	24	23	17	17
<i>Rye</i> -					<i>Soybeans</i> -				
Jointing	64	48	29	35	Seedbed Prepared	27	26	19	22
<i>Oats</i> -					<i>Peanuts</i> -				
Planted	98	94	77	89	Seedbed Prepared	36	24	11	20
Jointed	12	1	6	8	<i>Cotton</i> -				
<i>Corn</i> -					Seedbed Prepared	29	16	32	41
Seedbed Prepared	59	48	35	42	<i>Watermelon</i> -				
Planted	23	18	5	10	Planted	4	N/A	N/A	N/A

Weather for Week Ending March 25, 2007: Temperatures ranged from 39 degrees at Boise City on Wednesday, March 21st to 90 degrees at Woodward on Wednesday, March 21st. Precipitation averaged 0.0 inches in the Southeast district to 2.41 inches in the West Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 51 degrees at Boise City on Sunday, March 25th to 69 degrees at Burneyville on Saturday, March 24th.

Mesonet Temperature and Precipitation Data							
Week Ending March 25, 2007							
District	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2007 to March 25, 2007		
					Total	Departure From Normal	Percent of Normal
	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Degrees</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Panhandle	73	49	60	1.37	1.38	0.07	105
West Central	74	58	65	2.41	3.34	1.41	173
Southwest	76	60	67	0.58	1.88	0.06	103
North Central	74	59	66	1.77	2.27	0.11	105
Central	75	62	68	0.62	1.56	-1.06	60
South Central	75	62	68	0.01	0.68	-2.18	24
Northeast	75	61	67	1.84	2.30	-0.66	78
East Central	75	62	68	0.13	0.61	-2.69	18
Southeast	75	61	68	0.00	0.50	-3.11	14

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